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bis·muth  (bĭz məth)

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n. **Symbol Bi**

A brittle, crystalline, highly diamagnetic metallic element with a very low thermal conductivity and a pinkish-white luster, used in alloys to form sharp castings for objects sensitive to high temperatures and in various low-melting alloys for fire-safety devices. Atomic number 83; atomic weight 208.98; melting point 271.3°C; boiling point 1,564°C; specific gravity 9.78; valence 3, 5. See [Periodic Table](#).

[Obsolete German *Bismuth*; see **kweit-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

bis muth·al *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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